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REPORT

CD NO.

SUBJECT The Topolnitsa Barrage

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1. Construction of a barrage is under way at a location 17 kilometers along the road northwest of Shrebrino (N4218 E2411, formerly Kalugerovo), and four or five kilometers southeast of the confluence of the Mutivir and Topolnitsa Rivers. The work was begun in 1942 but proceeded slowly during World War II because of the scarcity of laborers. In 1945, the project was speeded up and in 1947 a Czech company from Brno was called on to continue the work.
2. The principal purpose of the barrage is to irrigate the Pazardzhik plain, an estimated 30,000 hectares of land. The barrage will be 310 meters long and approximately 70 meters high from base to crown; it will have a capacity of 135 million cubic meters and a flow of approximately 18 cubic meters per second during the six summer months. The average annual flow through the barrage will be 270 million cubic meters of water.
3. The Narodni Stavebni Podnik (State Construction Enterprise) is in charge of the work. The project was scheduled for completion in June 1952, but by February was only 25 percent completed. Work is proceeding slowly both because of the lack of laborers and the scarcity of machinery and informant estimated that another three or four years will be needed to complete the barrage.
4. Plans have been drawn up for building a hydroelectric power station near Mukhovo (N4241 E2400). It will utilize the water of the Topolnitsa barrage and will produce 24,000 kilowatts (sic).

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5. The Bulgarian director of the dike construction project is Engineer Vulchev. The Czech director is Engineer Gärtner.
6. A mobile dike is to be constructed in the vicinity of Kalugerovo. It will take care of the overflow of the barrage. It will form an artificial lake of one million cubic meters of water and will be filled during the day and emptied at night. Construction had not yet begun by February 1952.

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